

- Only Summit County residents may apply for the archery drawing, however non-residents may be invited by successful applicants.
- Archers are not permitted to hunt in more than **one group/area/time slot**.
- In addition to park district rules and regulations, any person hunting deer on Metro Parks property shall comply with the regulations and guidelines established by the Ohio Division of Wildlife.
- Deer may only be harvested with a bow and arrow or crossbow and bolt. The archery equipment used must follow guidelines established by the Ohio Division of Wildlife.
- All stands, blinds, cameras or feeders must have a durable, waterproof tag, written in English, legible and clearly visible at all times, identifying the permit holder by name and address OR unique Ohio Division of Wildlife customer identification number.
- Archers will be drawn by lottery on Thursday, July 16, 2026 and allowed up to three adult guests and two juveniles in most areas. Each must pass a proficiency test to participate in the program. To pass the test, an archer must achieve a score of 40 from 20 yards or 45 from 10 yards, with five shots at an 8-inch target.

Proficiency tests will be conducted at the archery range located at:

Silver Creek Metro Park, 89 Eastern Rd., Wadsworth Twp. *(dates to be determined)*

- Qualified archers will be issued a special-use permit, allowing access to a specified conservation area. No other archers will be granted access to the area during the specified time period. Permits will be issued by the park district's executive director.
- Any person authorized to hunt deer on Metro Parks property must carry his/her Summit Metro Parks special use permit and appropriate State of Ohio Hunting License and permits at all times while hunting the designated area.
- A permit is only good for the time period specified on the permit, and hunters must park in designated areas in their assigned zone.
- Hunters are fully responsible for the placement of their shots, and no shot shall be taken where an arrow or bolt would travel more than 75 yards.
- Hunting within 75 yards of an established trail is prohibited.
- Hunters must make every reasonable and legal effort to retrieve an injured animal.
- Hunters pursuing an animal off park property must have the permission of the adjacent landowner before pursuing the deer on private or federal land.
- **Hunters must fill out a HARVEST REPORT at the end of their specified time period. Harvest reports MUST be returned to Metro Parks within two weeks after the last day of the permit. Anyone who fails to do so or violates Metro Parks or Ohio Division of Wildlife rules and regulations will disqualify themselves from future drawings and will be subject to prosecution.**
- Hunters who harvest the most deer may be chosen to participate in next year's program without participating in the lottery.
- Cutting down, or otherwise breaking, bending and destroying any tree, bush or sapling is strictly prohibited. However, small tree limbs 1" in diameter or less may be carefully pruned to facilitate safe, ethical shots. In addition screw in steps, nails, etc. are prohibited.